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WASHINGTON.

IMPORTANT SUBJECTS IN CONGRESS. FINANCE, THE WASHINGTON SCHOOLS, TARIFF, AD-

JOURNMENT, THE FLORIDA CONFESSIONS. Congress has passed a bill appropriating \$75,000 for the benefit of the schools of the District, so that they need not be closed. The Democrats are yet undecided whether to have the Florida election inquired into or not. They are not sure whether they will be hurt or benefited by it. Mr. Wood thinks that there is a majority for his tariff bill. The House has voted, 177 to 35, in favor of stopping the cancellation of legaltenders. Mr. Phillips has offered a bill to abrogate Mr. Sherman's contract with the Syndicate.

PUZZLED ABOUT FLORIDA. THE DEMOCRATS UNCERTAIN WHICH PARTY WOULD BE MOST DAMAGED BY AN INVESTIGATION-M'LIN'S AND DENNIS'S GRIEVANCES.

IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. WASHINGTON, March 29.-Mr. William E. Chandler thinks that the McLin and Dennis confessions were brought out by the harsh treatment which they received from the Administration.

The story is that while McLin was nominated to be Associate Justice in New-Mexico the President was not anxious to have his nomination confirmed by the Senate. There are circumstances, it is said, which tend to prove that the President had promised a Western Senator that if McLin was not confirmed a friend of that Senator should be appointed. The latter very naturally labored to ator within an hour after McLin's rejection went to the President and asked for the appointment of a different person when he learned that the office had already been promised.

Dennis's cause of complaint is that he was driven out of the Secret Service by his chief, Brooks, and by the Secretary of the Treasury. He had not ap-Finally the chief wrote a sharp letter to him, rebuking him for his course. This letter was single to the Secretary of the Treasury before being mailed; and Mr. Sherman said that if there be written there was a good reason why Dermis should be removed. To this Brooks, in his lefter to Dennis, said that he made no reply. The result was Dennis's immediate resignation, and his employment by the Democrats.

Mr. Springer, of Illinois, is managing the Florida Ensiness, and is said to have been designated as the person in the interest of ex-Governor Tilden who shall receive all correspondence from the agents in Florida and confer with them.

The course to be pursued and the use to be made of the confessions recently published have apparently not been determined upon by the Democrats. The reasons for this delay are, first, because it has not been determined whether it will be a wise party policy to begin the investigation or to reopen the electo. al count; and secondly, because the Democrats are not altogether certain that if such a course should be decided upon here in Washington the rank and file of their party would sustain them. A caucus will probably be called to decide this matter during the present week.

There is also an apparent hesitation on the part of the Democrats to pursue the Florida investigation for another reason. It is probable that if all the facts connected with the counting of the vote in that State were to be brought out, even if the confessions of Dennis and McLin were admitted to be true, the Democrats would after all get the worst of it. For instance, much stress is laid upon the alleged tampering by the Republicans with vote of Poll No. 2, Archer Precinct, Alachua County, where it is asserted the Republicans added 219 to the vote found in the box at the close of the polls. If the Democrats should prove this it would also probably be shown by the Republicans that if the 219 votes were added, the frauds committed by the Democrats at the same poll were by no means neutralized, and that if such a tampering with the result actually took place, it was in order to prevent the Democrats g any advantage by baving stuffed the ballot-box during the day, and increased their vote at that precinct 900 per cent beyond

vote at that precinct 900 per cent beyond what it ought to have been. Such facts as these, if brought out, would probably be more damaging to the Democracy than anything they could prove against the Republicans.

There are many indications that a few Republicans are in sympathy with the Democrats in this movement against the electoral settlement of last year, and are encouraging it. It has been intimated, to-day, by some Republicans opposed to the President, that ex-Governor Packard, who has returned to New-Orleans, will soon be heard from in a way to attract general attention. way to attract general attention.

The House Committee on the Electoral Count will probably abandon the idea of securing a constitutional amendment, and adopt the bill agreed to be the Sensit Committee.

THE SCHOOLS NOT TO BE CLOSED.

AN APPROPRIATION OF \$75,000-THE DEMOCRATS GEUMBLE, BUT, ON THE WHOLE, SHOW UNCOM-MON SAGACITY.

IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. WASHINGTON, April 29,-The full effect upon the prospects of the particular party which should make itself responsible for the closing of the public schools in this District day after to-morrow (as had been determined upon in case of the failure of Congress to provide for their maintenance) seems to have penetrated to the understanding of the majority of Congressmen on both sides. The result has been the passage by both Houses to-day of a special appropriation bill for this purpose.

The bill was prepared by the School Commission ers of the District, and was introduced in the House of Representatives by Mr. Blackburn, of Kentucky It gives authority to the Commissioners of the District to retain from the amount due to the General Government from the District the sum of \$75,000, to be expended for school purposes. It provide that Congress may withhold the same sum from any future appropriation to be made for the support of the District Government.

Mr. Blount, of Georgia, who, as a member of the conference committee, had been instrumental in having the Senate provision for the public schools stricken from the General Deficiency Bill, objected to the consideration of Mr. Blackburn's bill to-day, and expressed a willingness to have the schools closed. Some grumbling on general principles was manifested in other Democratic quarters where the political bearings of the question had not been fully mastered, but it was soon suppressed, and Mr. Blount was induced reluctantly to withdraw his objection. The bill was then passed almost unanimously and without division. It was then sent to the Senate, and passed that body also, there being only seven begative votes, all Democrats.

The public school system of this city is one of the control of the public school system of this city is one of the

nost efficient and economical to be found anywhere mong those who share in its benefits are the chil ren of many of the most prominent members of longress and highest officers of the Government. cators from other sections who inspect the sols of Washington are unanimous in their ex-sistons of commendation. Anything which would I to impair this system would be a cause for

TEXAS AND PACIFIC.

THE RIGHT OF THE COMPANY TO CERTAIN FRAN-CHISES-AN EARLY REPORT EXPECTED

IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.; WASHINGTON, April 29.—The Judiciary Committee of the House is expected to complete, within a day or two, the investigation into the title of the Texas and Pacific Company to the charter and franchises under which it is operating, set on foot by Mr. Abram S. Hewitt's resolution.

Representatives of the company say that the re-

declare that this last movement against Colonel Scott's enterprise originates in a desire to throw discredit upon Mr. I stice Bradley, of the Supreme Court, under whose orders the Memphis and El Paso Roard was sold out, and in a failure to blackmail the Texas and Pacific Company. Colonel Scott's agents say that the Toxas and Pacific Comany owns the charters and franchises of the Southern Pacific and International Companies, and all except 2 per cent of the Memphis and El Paso. Besides these, it has separate charters from the United States and from the State of Texas. It has not and does not propose to avail itself of any of its rights under the old charters except between the Texas State line and Marshall, where the read ex-Texas State line and Marshall, where the read extends over the route of the Southern Pacific. The holders of 2 per cent of the Memphis and El Paso, they say, want the Texas and Pacific to pay them \$50,000 or \$60,000 for that, and if Colonel Scott had been willing to do so, the present investigation would not have taken place.

When the Judiciary Committee has reported on this resolution, ex-Governor Throckmorton will try to have the Texas Pacific Bill called up in the House for action.

MR. WOOD STILL HOPING. HE CONSIDERS ALL ESTIMATES OF THE STRENGTH OF HIS BILL FALLACIOUS, EXCEPT HIS OWN.

IGENERAL PRESS DISPATCH. Washington, April 29.—Representative Wood, of New-York, on being privately interrogated to-day, said that all the pretended canvasses of opinions of members, with a view of showing that a majority the House is against the tariff bill are fallacious. Members, he said, are not willing to commit themselves on a subject of this character, as they cannot foresee what will be the secure the defeat of McLin. Another Western Sen- precise contents of the bill until it shall be matured in committee, and though there may now be some items in it to which a majority would object, Mr. Wood has no doubt that there is unquestionably a majority in favor of the general features of the bill, including at least ten Republican members. No doubt efforts will be made to defeat the bill by motions to postpone its consideration until the parently been a model Secret Service officer, but bad next session, to lay on the table; or for the apbeen travelling about the country, neglecting to pointment of a committee composed of members perform the duties to which he had been assigned. of both Houses, to report hereafter; but Mr. Wood will, notwithstanding such anticipated efforts, endeavor to have the bill passed during the present session. Its consideration will resumed some time this week. Representawas any reason why such a letter should tive Banks will make the next speech against the bill, to be followed by Representative Tuckerin its favor. It is the opinion of several of the Committee on Ways and Means that the bill to impose a tax on incomes of over \$2,000 cannot pass.

> THE SYNDICATE'S CONTRACT. A BILL OFFERED IN THE HOUSE WITH THE OBJECT OF BREAKING IT DOWN.

IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. introduced a bill to-day proposing to set aside he belongs. the Syndicate Contract recently made by the Secretary of the Treasury on the ground against public policy to the exclusive right to sell 412 per cent bonds to any single set of bankers to receive payment for them otherwise than in coin actually transferred to the Treasury. The basis of this resolution is the testimony of Messrs. Vermilyea and Seligman, and other New-York bankers, that in former Syndicate contracts the bankers did not put into the Treasury any gold for the bonds they had received, but on the contrary paid them in gold certificates. Members of the House Committee on Banking and Currency argue, therefore, that bonds sold in this manner increase the National debt without bringing any gold into the country. The bill introduced by Mr. Phillips is understood to represent the sentiment of a majority of the committee, and was presented simply to place before the House, in definite official form, the opinions which have been expressed in the committee. It is no secret that a majority of the House Committee on Banking and Currency is opposed to the policy Secretary Sherman is pursuing for the resumption of specie payments.

PROGRESS IN THE HOUSE. LESS TALK AND MORE WORK CHARACTERIZING THE PROCEEDINGS NOW.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] Washington, April 29.—The House of Representatives has been making encouraging progress with the work of the session during past week or ten days. Since last Monday the River and Harbor bill, the Post Office Appropriation Bill and the bill repealing the Bankrupt Act, have all been disposed of, and ferty pages of the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Appropriation Bill have been gone through Equal industry during the ensuing with. six weeks would enable the House to finish up its necessary work. The Tariff Bill is likely to occupy very little more of the time of the House during the very fittle more of the time of the today and present session, many of its advocates having reached the conclusion that the safest way is to allow it to go over until next Winter. Several other measures, each of which would ordinarily occupy the attention of the see for several days, are yet to be called up; but the general feeling among members is that none of these bills ought to be allowed to stand in the way of the appropriation bills, and that as soon as the latter are disposed of Congress had better adjourn

ABOLITION OF OFFICES. TWO POSTS IN THE TREASURY WHICH THE HOUSE PROPOSES TO DISPENSE WITH. IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

Washington, April 29.—The House during the consideration of the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Appropriation Bill, to-day, agreed to the abo lition of the Fourth and Fifth Auditorships of the Treasury. Considerable difference of opinion exists even among Republican members of Congress, in regard to the wisdom of this step, It is true that after the consolidation the officers who are retained will have no more ardnous duties than some others now in the service. To this it is replied that the centralization and consolidation of duties is a dangerous policy, and that the greater the supervision of accounts the greater will be the safety of the Treasury.

CURRENT TOPICS AT THE CAPITAL.

THE TAXES OF BROKEN BANKS. WASHINGTON, Monday, April 29, 1878. The bill introduced by Senator Davis, of Blinois, and passed by the Senate sometime ago, providing that whenever any bank has ceased to do business by reason of insolvency or bankruptcy, no the laws of the United States, which shall duninish its assets necessary for the full payment of all its depositors, has been incorporated into the Internal Revenue Bill reported by the House Committee on Ways and Means, and set for consideration on next Wednesday The representatives of banks in Chicago, Fishkill, N. Y., Franklin, Ind., Georgetown, Col., Kansas City, Minnapolis and St. Louis, have presented a petition to the House of Representatives, calling especial attention this section of the bill and asking that it be agreed to.

A COMMITTEE ON THE FRENCH TREATY, In accordance with the desire of prominent French citizens to negotiate a commercial treaty between the United States and France, their views being represented by M. Chetteau, a central committo promote this object has been organized, with Senator Eastis, of Louisiana, as president; Representative Willis, of New-York, and A. Pollok, vice-presidents, and Ernest Brolujour, secretary. The remaining memers are Senators Hill, Butler, Sargent, Dawes, Earnum and Matthews, and Representatives Gibson, Banks, Cox. of Obio, Ackieu, Tucker, Morse, and a number of promi-nent lawyers and bankers.

REPUBLICAN PROSPECTS IN CONNECTICUT. Republicans from Connecticut who have reently returned from a visit to that State, say that by proper management a Republican majority can be elected to the Legislature and a Republican Representa-tive in Congress can be gained in the Hartford District.

MINISTER SEWARD TO BE SENT FOR. Mr. Springer's Committee on the Expenditures Representatives of the company say that the re-fort will certainly be in their favor. Without ac-investigation of Minister Seward's conduct during his

cusing Mr. Hewitt of any improper motive, they term as Consul-General, has decided to summon that general ENGLAND STILL OBSTINATE.

WASHINGTON NOTES. Washington, Monday, April 29, 1878.

The subscriptions to the 4 pr con loan to-day The Senate in executive session to-day confirmed the

mination of Robert A. Sidebotham to be Secretary of the Territory of Idaho. The House Committee on Public Lands to-day agreed to report favorably a bill granting to the City of Denver, Col., block No. 143 in the east division of that city, to be used solely for common school purposes.

Professor Wilcox says that the Delmar report, which

Secretary McCalloch suppressed, was prepared and dis-societ of before he went into the Government service, and that he never had anything to do with it. The President has signed the act to prevent the intro

duction of contagious or infectious diseases into the United States; the act providing for the erection of a public building in Kunsus City, Mo.; and the act to prevent the sale of lottery tickets in the District of Columbia. The Secretary of the Trasury has directed the de struction of \$1,167,896 of legal-tender notes, that being so per cent of the amount of additional National bank circulation issued during the mouth; and the same amount will be disbursed in silver dollars for currency obligations, in conformity with the order therefor issued

The bill introduced in the House to-day by Delegate Hiram Stevens, of Arizona, authorizing the President to reinstate certain officers of the United States, provides hat all officers who have served in the United States that all officers who have served in the Context state. Army more than twenty years continuously and also huring the late rebellion, and who were wounded and preveted for gallant services, and those who were honorably mustered out of the service under the act of July 15, 1870, he reinstated and retired to the rank they occupied when previously mustered out.

WORKING AGAINST GROG-SHOPS.

DIFFERENCES IN REGARD TO METHODS. L CROSBY'S LACK OF FAITH IN "MURPHYISM" AND SO-CALLED "REFORMERS"-CRITICISMS OF TEMPERANCE ADVOCATES.

In speaking of temperance work vesterday, e Rev. Dr. Howard Crosby, president of the Society

for the Prevention of Crime, said: "I no longer pretend to know anything about tem perance, in the old style, nor am I en rapport with any of the modern movements. I am in for law and order now, and no other kind of temperance. The society to which I belong is working quietly now, as usual. We are now waiting to see the fate of the Holahan bili. This is in committee at Albany. If the Senate passes this bill, it means unrestricted liquor for this city. Should this happen, the city will be so thoroughly drenched with rum that the people will rise and demand a thorough reform. I don't believe in anything for the reformation of drunkenness but the grace of God. I have no faith in Murphylsm, tectotalism, or any of the other modern phases, and I pay very little attention to the discussions of so-called reformers. Temperance work has sometimes shown a tendency to

breed intemperate language. The quarrel between the two wings of the Temperance Union gave rise to caustic criticism on both sides. The old animosity now slumbers. Recently some sharp words in a temperance paper con cerning a speaker at a meeting in Tammany Hall, called Washington, April 29.-Mr. Phillips, of Kansas. forth indignant protests from the association to which

At the office of The Palladium, the official paper of the Blue Ribbon "Temperance Union, it was stated, yes-"Blue Ribbon "Temperance Union, it was stated, yeaterday, that there was no ill-feeling toward the old association from which a separation was made. The attacks
on the Rev. Mr. Affleck, to which reference was made at
a recent meetling, were in The Living Issue,
a paper published under the auspices of
the National Prohibition League, but not controlled by the League, its utterances were due
to the editor alone. The charge that Mr. Affleck used
language which disgraced the temperance plafform was
untrue. He was binnt in his speech, and used many
quaint Yorkshire pirrases and expressions, but never
anything that could be construed into "bur-room slang."
He was waiting for an apology for the offensive articles;
if it did not come he would doubtless bring a suit for
libel.

He was waiting for an aponogy for the onesare as an it for libel.

In regard to Mr. Murphy's work in this city, it was stated that he had expressed no intention of remaining here long, or engaging in any temperance revival. He had come East partly for recreation, partly for business. He was induced to speak here twice, but he had no intention of conducting a temperance campaign under the auspices of the association which now claims that it brought him here.

The president of the American Temperance Union—the original body from which the "Bible Ribbon" sing seceded a lew mentis age—disclaims any feud between the original body from which the "Bible Ribbon" sing seceded a lew mentis age—disclaims any feud between the two societies. On April 21 Francis Murphy spoke at Cooper Union, at a meeting of this society, and again, largely through the efforts of its officers, at the convention held in the Church of the Disciples, on Thursday evening last. Some doubles were expressed by those who had heard Mr. Murphy speak in other cities in regard to his success here. It was thought that his many peculiar mannerisms would and the relished by a city antilinee. These fears proved to be fill-founded, as at both meetings he was greeted with much enthusiasm, and produced a deep impression on his hearers by his carnestness and cloquence. It was expected that he would remain here on sunday and make an address at the meeting, but he seemed so anxious to go on to Springtleid that the officers of the Union relinquished their plans. Mr. Murphy came to the city with the purpose of carrying on a great temperance revival here, but after looking about the field he ex-

speak under the auspices of the American Temperance Union.

Many people—temperance people—the president continued, had indulged in carping criticism of Mr. Murphy after his speech here. It had been declared that he was mercemary. That was entirely false. He did not charge the Temperance Union a cent for his services on the two occasions when he spoke in this city last week. He paid his own expenses and seemed to ofter his valuable all solely for the good of the cause to which he had given so much strength. There were petty souls, however, stung by small leatousles, who repeated every rimnor in disparagement of this mar's work, and would have the public believe that he was ruled by their standards of conduct. Mr. Murphy's absence from the city now was mainly to get rest, of which he was in sore need.

A CLOWN'S STORY OF HIS LIFE. HIS EXPERIENCE OF THE CIRCUS, THE SALOON, AND REFORM.

In the little, low, wedge-shaped hall on the upper floor of No. 70 Barrowst., Joseph P. English, 'the converied clown," told but picket. life. It was a strange interior. Upon the walls were nung Scriptural texts and the most astenishing chromos. over the platform at the end of the hail was the adover the platform at the end of the hail was the ad-anultion "Get acquainted with Jesus," and im-mediately below the request "Gentlemen will bease not spit tobacco juice on the floor." The andience was composed of the people of the neigh-methood, who assemble regularly for temperance mect-ngs. The speaker is a tail, wary man, with from-gray-nair, a thin, sharp face and remarkably bright, black was. He gave his reminiscences in driblets, interspers-ng much general exbortation. His quaint manner, dry namer and dramatic way of talking made what he said nteresting.

ing much general exhortation. Its quant and grand grand way of talking made what he said interesting.

After a sketch of his early life in Dublin, he said:

"My father was as strict about shows and theatres as about drinking. One day I went to see a circus. The clown took my fancy. I said then if I ever grew up to be a man, I would become a clown. No hardsing ever kept one from that purpose. When I came to this country I joined my first circus. It burst up in three days, But had didn't discourage me. I kept on and finally became a clown. At hast my wife berged me to fleave the show business. I was then playing at Chatham Four Corners. I took her to the circus to see me. When we got home, I asked her how she liked it. Said sale, 'On, you looked so ridicalous!' My ardor all ozed out of my finzers. Saidli, 'But didn't liplay well?' She replied, 'I felt so aslamed when I saw you in the rang that I would have given anything to be home. That decided me. I was then playing with 'Sailivan's Hibernian Barda,' I said, 'When I leave this show I will never go to another.' I went to Poughkeepole and opened a 'gin mill' and lager-beer saloon, where I saing and told funny stories. My wife thought it was a restaurant, and nothing but eating and drinking into it. I didn't tell her wint it was. I thought liquor selling was all right. I had a good more character—the Govern-

erowned heads of Europe, ail I need do is to show them my liquer lifense.

"One day a customer who spent much money at my har came in half drunk. While he was standing there a little girl entered with a pail. She wanted a quart of layer. When I gave it to her she turned to the mannel of the mann

GALVESTON, April 29.—A dispatch from Tyler, exas, says last night four negro children, who were locked up t home while their mother was at church, were burned to

ALBANY, N. Y., April 29.—The Stanwix Hall safe was robbed of \$1,500 last night. It is alleged that Thomas Dusenbury, night clerk, who has absconded, committed the robbers. Baltimore, April 29.—Colonel George P. Kane, Mayor of this city, was stricken with paralysis during Friday night last, and now lies in a very critical condition. His death may occur at any moment.

INDIANAPOLIS, April 29.—The defalgation of Jas. Bayase, cashier of the Salem National Sank, amounts to \$20,000, which has been paid by his bondsman, Mr. Lyon, and the bank will resume business. Baynes's whereal outs is still unknown.

MORE SIGNS OF APPROACHING WAR. THE SECRETARY FOR INDIA SPEAKS IN A WARLIKE TONE-ARMORIES AND ARSENALS BUSY-THE

TURKS SHOWING BAD FAITH. Preparations are going on in England and India as if war were actually at hand. Gathorne Hardy, a leading member of the British Government has declared at Bradford that Russia must be held to her engagements and that the interests of the Greeks and Mussulmans must be protected as well as those of the Slavs. The general tenor of his address was warlike. It is intimated at London that England will not lay down any programme as regards the Eastquestion, although requested to do by Austria, Italy and Germany. It is reported that Germany is determined not to allow warfare to extend to the Baltic. The Porte continues to keep troops at Varna, Shumla and Batum, notwithstanding the stipulations in the Treaty of San Stefano. Austria's designs continue to be the subject of con-

A BRITISH MINISTER ON THE CRISIS. RUSSIA TO BE HELD TO HER ENGAGEMENTS-THE

GOVERNMENT STEADFAST. LONDON, Monday, April 29, 1878. The Right Hon, Gathorne Hardy, Secretary for India, presiding at a banquet in Bradford tonight, said the Government took its stand upon public faith and honesty, and upon declaration of 1871, that one party an engagement could not withdraw from it without the consent of the rest. He denied that the Government were indifferent to the wrongs of the Turkish Christians, but the policy of a great Power could not be destroyed by an incident, however horrible. The real question was whether

England had or had not great interests in the East, He maintained that the Treaty of San Stefano in its present shape did not contain a single element of permanent peace. The interests of the Greek and Mussulman populations must be protected as well as those of the Slavs. The measures of the British Government were not warlike but precautionary. A war party or war ministry was an impossibility in England. If a people went to war it must not be for the sake of victories, but only for great princi-ples. The Governments were determined to main-tain the principles by which their conduct on the Eastern question had bitherto been actuated.

ENGLAND GROWING MORE WARLIKE. THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT RESOLVED TO PROPOSE NO PROGRAMME - MILITARY PREPARATIONS

GOING ON.

LONDON, Monday, April 29, 1878. In its leading editorial, The Pall Mall Gazette says: "The solicitation to us of Germany, Austria and Italy to propose a plan of our own, amounts to neither more less than a verbally modified offer of the principle of equivalents as the basis of a sett ement for the Eastern question. That offer has been again and again declined by Her Majesty's Ministers during the progress of the ate war, and we have no fear of their accepting it at a time when they would incur more conspicuous discredit

ACTIVE SERVICE VOLUNIEERS TO BE ORGANIZED At a meeting to-night of the Committee to Promote the organization of the Active Service Volunteer Army, two Generals, five Colonels and many members of Parliament joined the committee. Thirty officers and 300 men yesterday signified their willingness to join the

MORE TROOPS TO BE SENT TO MALTA. General Sir Alfred Hastings Horsford has been se ected as commander of the Second Army Corps. A considerable proportion of the First Army Corps is likely to be dispatched to Malta in the course of the coming week, including a portion of the Guards. Many thousand stands of Martini-Henry rifles are being removed from the racks in the Tower of London, presumably for the equipment of the reserves.

TORPEDO NETS ORDERAD.

fittings for the conversion of merchant ships into armed crulsers. A certain manufacturing firm has received from the Admiralty an order for more than 100 wire torpedo ners, for the protection of ships from attacks of fish torpedoes. All the nets are to be delivered during May. Immense quantities of shot and shell are being issued from the Woolwich Arsenal in all directions.

The first Indian expeditionary force will embark from Bombay in two divisions. One will leave to-day, cor sisting of two batteries of Royal Artillery, the 13th and | destroying the material. A similar fate befell the edi-31st Regiments, the Second Goorkhas and two companies of suppers and miners. The second will embark panies of sappers and micros. It will consist of the Ninth cavalry, the First Bombay Lancers, the Ninth and Twenty-sixth Bombay Infantry, and two companies of sappers and miners. The shipping arrangements comprise steamers with an aggregate tomage of 15,379 tons, and sailing vessels of 21,146 aggregate tomage. The latter will be towed by the steamers. Water will be provided for thirty and coal for twenty-six days. At the Bombay dockward work is being proceeded day and night in fitfor thirty and coal for twenty-six days. At the Bombay dockyard work is being prosecuted day and night in fitting ships for troops and horses. As an experiment of State policy, the dispatch of native troops to Europe has proved successful beyond the hopes of the most ardent advocates of the measure. The native soldiers appear completely captivated by the prospect of being eneaged in military service in Europe. They are voluntering to cross the seas with an entimalism which has surprised even those wao know them best. They are pressing forward in whole regiments at a time. Troops who returned from Burmah only six weeks ago, and who were three years in that country, are said to be delighted by the thought that they are going to some place near England to flight the Russians. In one regiment every man has signed a polition that he may be sent with the expedition to Europe.

RUSSIA EXPECTED TO BACK DOWN. The Vienna Political Correspondence has a letter from London stating that the British Government still considers it possible that Russia may appreciate to th England's earnestness. In the contrary case, England will take into her own hands, at her own risk, the rect

THE EASTERN QUESTION STILL UNSOLVED. ALL QUIET ON THE BOSPHORUS-SHUMLA, VARNA AND BATUM STILL HELD BY THE TURKS-AUS-

LONDON, Monday, April 29, 1878. Yesterday, which was looked forward to in onstantinople with considerable apprehension of the usequences which might result if the Russian troops attempted to enter the city, under the pretext of intendng to hear mass in the Greek Churches, passed off queetly. Only a small number of Russians came in Sat-arday night, most of whom spent the night in concert saloons. Only about fifty of them attended church. THE PORTE HOLDING ON TO SHUMLA AND VARNA.

The question of the evacuation of the fortresses con tinues to cause difficulty and irritation. The Russians say that the retirement of their army and the British fleet from the neighborhood of Constantinople could be easily arranged but for the Turkish obstincy on this point, which destroys confidence. The time for evacuation was left indefinite by the terms of the Treaty of San Stefano. Last week Generals Joavanowsky and Zimmermann sent officers simultaneously to Fazil Pasin, at Shuola, and Ahmed Kaiserli, at Varna, with formal demands for the surrender of those places. The answers in both cases were that no orders to quit had been received from the Seraskierate, nor if such orders were received could the troops be moved until transports came. Some threats were then used. Finally, the kussians begged permission to occupy the outer lines leaving the inner flees and towns to the Turks. This was decimed, and the Russians pressed the point. "Let us talk no more about this foolisbness," was Ahmed Kaiseril's last answer. point, which destroys confidence. The time for evacua-

The evacuation of Batum is rendered difficult through the opposition of the population. They refuse to submit to Russian rule and effer to pay a ransom and re-main Turkish. Petitions to this effect have been re-ceived at the Ports.

WHERE THE OFTOMAN TROOPS ARE STATIONED, In Asia the Turks have 84 battalions, distributed as ollows: At or near Batum, 24 (and 8 batteries); between Trebizond and Erzerum, 15; between Erzerum eosh, 45. In Europe they have 255 battalions, posted as follows: Between Shamla and Varna 45 (with posted as follows: Between Samina and varia 45 (with 14 batteries of artillery); in Thessaly, Epiros and Salonica, 69; at Gallipoh, 30; and at or around Constantinople, exclusive of those at Scutari, 120; numbering about 90,000 men. There is a great and asknowledged want of competent officers, but the condition of the army in health, spirits and discipline is good. The troops have been moyed recently, so as to protect more effectually the land side of the of the forts of the upper Bosphorus.

A rumor comes from Vienna that Marshal Count von

Molike, the well-known German strategist, who is visiting Copenhagen, is commissioned to negotiate a league betwen Denmark, Russia and Germany for closing the Baltic. This rumor is probably based on the statement Baltic. This rumor is probably based on the statement in *The North Germon Gazette* of Saturday, that it would not conceal the opinion that the dispatch of a British fleet to the Baltic, where many neutral interests might be affected, would render the situation immeasurably more complicated. The Vienna *Montag's Review yesterday* published a Berlin letter, believed to be semi-official, on this subject. The letter said it could hardly be expected that a foreign fleet would make its appearance in the Baltic against the wish of Germany.

REPORTS AND DENIALS IN CIRCUIATION. The news in general is very conflicting. A Rome dispatch contradicts the statement that Italy has asked England to state her views, and a Berlin dispatch reafilrms it, and says the question is now being repeated by Austria, Italy and Germany. A dispatch to The Times from St. Petersburg declares that Prince Bismarck has ceased mediating, while dispatches from Berlin and Vienna state the exact opposite very positively. It is impossible to exact the truth from these various assertions, but The Times's St. Petersburg correspondent undoubtedly derives his information from the St. Petersburg Chancellory.

AUSTRIA'S POSITION IN DOUBT. Vienna newspapers report that the entry of Austrian troops into Bosnia and Herzegovina is imminent. This ouncement, however, is believed to be founded on mere conjecture, as nothing definite has been settled. It is in fact impossible to determine what is the foundatoo for the repeated declarations that Austria is about too occupy Bosnia. The Austrian and Hungarian Ministers are in council at Vienna. It is stated that Count Andrassy is pressing for an immediate compromise of the long pending controversies between the two States, because the condition of toreign affairs demands an energetic policy, which intestine quarrels would hinder. Many condicting reports are current about the measures of precaution Austria will take, but none are authoritative. It is said that the Servian activity and truellence of precaution Austria will take, but none are authoritative. It is said that the servian activity and truculence are being excited by Russia to divert the Austrian forces, as Servia's only further expectation of prefit must lie in the direction of Bosnia, where Austria conid not permit her to go. The Daily Telegraph has a Vienna dispatch, sujung: "Whitever measures of precaution the Government may have resolved upon, Russia is not a party to them. They have Germany's sanction—possibly they were suggested from Berlin—but Austria is still free as to her future movements." It is worthy of notice that The Times's Vieuna correspondent, who is trustworthy and careful, discusses the position elsewhere to-day at considerable length, but has not a word to say about the attifude of Austria. This is a fair indication that no decision has been reached at Vienna.

CONCORD IN ROUMANIA.

The tension in Roumania has been greatly relieved

The tension in Roumania has been greatly relieved by the circular of M. Bratlano, the Roumanian Minister-President, to the Prefects, cautioning them against the assumption that the military convention with Russia has expired, and enjoining courtesy and forbearance toward the Bussians and caluness and frumess in the discharge of their duties, until the questions at issue have been submitted to the judgment of Europe. The Times's cor-respondent says: "If this document had been promul-gated when the Bessarabian and other questions were first broached, it might have prevented an enormous amount of violent and exceedingly impolitic agitation." THE THESSALIAN REVOLT.

The negotiations between the English commissioners and insurgents for a cessation of hostilities in Thessaly

RUSSIAN OFFICERS RETURNING. The Grand Duke Nicholas and Generals Skobeleff, sr., Ghourko and Nepokoitchitzky will leave for Odesan TREPOST DISMISSED.

M. Trepoff, whom the woman Vera Sassulitch some time since attempted to assassinate, has been relieved from his functions as Prefect of St. Petersburg and of

THE FIRE RECORD.

BURNING OF THE FREE PRESS BUILDINGS. THE FIRE CAUSED BY A DEFECTIVE GAS MAIN-RAPID SPREAD OF THE FLAMES-LOSS ABOUT \$50,000.

DETRIOT, Mich., April 29.-The gas main ending into The Free Press Buildings exploded this morning, when the gas ignited and instantaneously the whole edifice burst into flames. The chief pressman, two maiting clerks, night engineer and five pressuren, who were in the building, all escaped. Two of the latter, however, were siightly injured. The Free Press Company occupied the two four-story brick buildings on the corner of Woodbridge and Griswold-sts. The burning gas ascending through the stairways, ignited at once every floor of the two buildings. An effort was made by the pressman to put on the safety hose and throw a stream of water on the fire below, but the attempt was soon abandoned. The presses were stopped and the forms of the paper were sayed. The city firemen were promptly on band, but despite their efforts the two buildings were thoroughly burned out by the fire. The presses, of which there were twelve, and machinery of The Free Press were more or less damaged. The job rooms ontained about \$49,000 worth of material, which is utterly destroyed. The rooms above the job rooms were used as a stereotype foundry and mail clerk's room From the office of the latter every paper was saved in tact, including the subscription lists of all the editions of The Free Press. In the rooms next above were the composing rooms and editorial rooms. The composing h its equipments, was burned and fell through. torial rooms, with the exception of the room in the rear, where was stored a quantity of new type which was un

The Free Press Company had arranged to set up the one some personal property.

IN BROOKLYN.

A fire broke out late Sunday night in the third story of the Masonic Temple, at Grand and Seventh-sts., Brooklyn. The story was occupied by lodge rooms, the furniture of which was damaged to the extent of \$2,500. The building, which is owned by Adolph Baker, was damaged \$2,000. The store of Geo. Shields, at No. 268 Grand-st., received injury to the amount of \$300. All the losses are covered by insurance.

NATICE, Mass., April 29 .- Early this morn-

ng a fire destroyed C. B. Travis's shop with the dwelling house adjoining. Loss about \$50,000. The shop was oc-capted by C. B. Travis and Samuel Welcott, shoe manu-facturers, Wm. Forsyth and Chas. W. Ham, stitchers, and Chas. Gile, machinist. Very little of the stock or TOLEDO, Onio, April 29.-The foundry and machine shop of Herbert Baker & Co. were burned this mornin Loss \$8,000; insurance \$7,000, in Western companies.

LARGE FIRE AT COLUMBIA, TENN.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., April 29.-At 11 o'cleck o-night a telegram was received by Chief Stokell from the Mayor of Columbia, stating that a fire was raging or the public square, which was beyond the control of the of the people, and requesting him to send an engine and pienty of hose immediately to the spot. A special train, with a fire-engine, left here at miduight, and will arrive at Columbia, forty-five miles distant, in an hour and a healt.

BRITISH " TYRANNY" DENOUNCED. JEREMIAH O'DONOVAN BOSSA'S LECTURE.

Jeremiah O'Donovan Rossa delivered a lecare, which took over two hours in its delivery, at Cooper Institute last evening, before an audience of not more than 300 people, including about thirty ladies. General F. F. Millen presided and introduced the speaker, who was received with loud and prolonged cheers.

F. F. Millen presided and introduced the speaker, who was received with load and prolonged cheers. The "Bull Run" flag of the 62th Regiment ornamented the wall back of the lecturer. Mr. Rossa prefaced his experiences in an English prison by humorous ancedotes concerning himself, which, with allan ons to future efforts toward the independence of Irelan I and the crushing of "Eritish tyranny," kept the andience in almost continued haughter or applicates, mingled with hisses where the remarks apparently made them appropriate. Mr. Rossa said that he felt ashamed of the weak sympathy of Americans for the Irish cause, since the Irish and spilt so much blood for the benefit of this country. Even in the Revolution the first blow for American independence was given by two Irishmen. The meanest Irishman was he who, after he became an American citizen would save; "What is Ireland to me!" To fight England successfully it was necessary to undermane her and blow her up. To every country where England had taken her flag, she had taken the Bible, osten-bibly to convert the peope, but treatly a rine town were to plunder and rob. He was surprised to that that in this country, where there seemed to be a universal wish for Ireland's Independence. Here was nothing done practicely. There were Irishmen who were ready to take sticks in their hands and march up to the camou's mouth for Irishmen who were ready to take sticks in their hands and march up to the camou's mouth for Irish freedom, and he was sorry that they had not been the for England. England had done everything to exterminate Ireland, and thought she had succeeded, but shi deli net tell the truth when she said she had not failed. "If we are only true to ourselves," he soid, "we can work destruction to that tyranny waich his raided over us." At the close of the fecture the andience voted a resolution of thanks to the speaker.

THE AMERICAN SOLDIER.

COMMENCEMENT AT THE ARTILLERY

SCHOOL. PERCHES BY GENERAL SHERMAN AND SECRETARY M'CRARY-VISIT TO THE HAMPION NORMAL

SCHOOL AND THE NATIONAL MILITARY ASYLUM. FORT MONROE, Va., April 29 .- The closing exercises of the Artillery School took place last evening, and drew forth a large and brilliant audience, owing to the presence of the Secretary of War and General Sherman, who had spent the day in witnessing the batteries exercising at target practice. General George W. Getty, commandant, introduced First-Lieutenant R. M. Rogers, 2d Artillery, who read an essay on the second battle of Bull Run. Lieutenant V. H. Bridgman, 2d Artillery, read an essay on the Battle of Marengo. SPEECH BY GENERAL SHERMAN.

General Getty then introduced General Sherman, who proceeded to address the graduates, substantially as folows: He said that most of them had left West Point a few years ago, no doubt with the idea that they knew few years ago, no doubt with the idea that they knew more than anybody else [laughter] and that there was nothing more for them to learn, but they had, no doubt, found out long before this that such was not the case. The profession of the soldier is not only one of the most henorable but the most important in this country. The people look to their army for protection. The lives of our citizens are in their care, and it behooves them to be well fitted to fulfil the duties thus immosed upon them. In order to do this intelligently it requires constant study. The artiliery is, perhaps, the most important arm of the military service, and owing to the constant changes requires more constant and persistent study than any other branch. There is no such thing as learning it all and then stopping, for improvements are being made every day. It is true just at the present time that our own Government is dong very little in this way. The country is poor and cannot afford the expense, but as soon as it recuperates from the effects of the late war ishe will provide ample funds for this purpose. At present we are deing what we can with our limited means, and allowing the nations of Europe to do most of the experimenting, and we will take advantage of their results at the proper time. The great nations of Europe are better provided with the latest style of arms than our own. The fifteen-inch Rodman gun is the best we have, but it is not equal to those of England, France and Germany, and he greatly feared that in case of a war with any of those Powers, notwithstanding our bravery and intelligence, we would be at a great disadvantage. But the time will come when we will have an ample supply of the best to be had in the market. He then spoke of the old style of six-pounders that were in use when General Getty and himself were at West Point, which were touched off with a torch or red-het iron, and sketched the progress in the improvements down to the present time. This, he said, should be a sufficient evidence that notwithstanding more than anybody eise (laughter) and that there was this school, their studies have only commenced, and he charged them all to be on the alert, to read up the latest magazines of European countries, and to keep up with the improvements of the day, and in order to do so they would have to study every day, even though they should attain the age of eighty years.

The class were then presented with their diplomas-on parchment, similar to a regular commission-in the order

SECRETARY M'CRARY'S ADDRESS.
General Getty then stated that the Honorable Secretary of War had kindly consented to say a few words to the graduates, and introduced that gentleman, who spoke

abstantially as follows: substantially as follows:

The people of this country feel a deep interest in the military arm of the Government, perhaps not so deep an interest as they ought to feel, and yet I know that in every part of our land there will be an interest—a deep interest—felt in proceedings of this kind. I believe that it is the duty of every citizen to encourage, by anything he can say or do, the interest of the chief citizens of this land in the army of the United States. We cannot in accordance with our institutions and the policy of the Government expect to keep a large standing army. Our experience, however, has shown us that when danger arises we have in this land—in every part of it—men who are ready to go forth and defend the flag of their country. But we know that in a vast army hastily gathered as an army must be in this country, there must be another class of men to take charge of, organize and lead it. Hence it is that the Government has established the Military Academy at West Point. Hence it is that more recently this school has been established, and that efforts are now making to establish an Infantry School at Fort Leavenworth. It is for this purpose that every encouragement should be given to these institutions, so that we may have a large number of trained men to organize and lead these armics. Every gentleman who graduates at these establishments is expected to be able not only to command a company or a reriment but a brigade, a division or an army in the field. Such is the principle upon when the military clucation of this country is based, and it ought to be encouraged by every citizes in the land.

One thing more I may say, that to man can be great in any profession unless he has a great love of country to inspire him. The country should have its supreme affections, and the field upon to defend that flag upon the field of battle, but that a remanent, lasting, and glorious peace is assured to our beloved land. The people of this country feel a deep interest in the

asting, and glorious peace is assured to our beloved

THE HAMPTON NORMAL SCHOOL.

At 9 o'clock this morning the party embarked on the team yacht Monroe and proceeded to the Hampton Normal School, where they were met by General Arm strong and General Marshall, and conducted about the grounds and cottages, while the students, some 300 in number, under the charge of Lieutenant Remayn, U.S. A., were paraded in front of Virginia Hall, where they were inspected. The students pre-sented a very fine appearance, the fifteen indians re-cently admitted to the school being couons by the United States uniforms, which they wore.
General Armstrong then introduced the Secretary of

General Armstrong then introduced the Secretary of War, who addressed them as follows:

I am very glad indeed to have the privilege of being here to-day, and to say a few words of encouragement and cheer to one and ail. I am delighed with what I have seen of this school. I am very sure that it is fortunate for your country that this institution has been established and fostered as well as it has been. I am glad to see here representatives of different races, gathered together in this institution or education. We are all children together of one Great Father. In this country now, thank God, we are all free-free and equal—but it is well that we should understand what freedom means; what responsibilities and duties freedom brings with it. We are free, but we are not free to be worthless and lazy. We are free to be industrious, free to be active and energetic, each one to take Gave of himself; to be independent. Freedom brings with it responsibilities—of educating and maintaining yourselves, of carving out your own forthues.

General Sherman was then called upon and said be

General Sherman was then called upon and said he had visited the school some two years ago and found little change. What change he observed was for the better. He was glad to see the new acquisition to the better. He was glad to see the new acquisition to the school. He had met them some eight years ago, away out on the plains of the Far West. They had brought in four young Mexican children to seil, whose father and mother they had killed. He then detailed the series of operations which led to their final capture and transfer to Forda for safe keeping. They were now, for the first time, brought in contact with those who work, and he was satisfied that the influence of the institution and surroundings would have a beneficial effect more them, and he hoped to see them settle down and become good and peaceful clizous.

NATIONAL MILITARY ASYLUM. The party then embarked on the steam yacht, and were conveyed to the National Military Asylum, where they were met by Governor P. T. Woodfin, the usual sa-

inte being fired as they landed. The veterans, over 600, were drawn up in line and inspected, after which they were drawn up in line and inspected, after which they marched past in column of company, the lame and instance brinking up the rear. Governor Woodin then invised the party to his quarters, where lunch had been prepared. After lunch the grounds of the Home, which are the most beautiful in this section, were voice. At 3 a.m. the party returned to the Fort, a diefect the steamer Lais of the Lake at 5 p.m. for some.

MURDER BY A THIEF AT CHICAGO.

CHICAGO. April 29.-Louis Samault, an Italian raspicker, this morning shot Nichelas McCue, are eighteen, killing him instantly. Samauit had stolen ome paper boxes from the Novelty Manufacturing works, and was running off with them, when McCue, an employe of the firm, gave chase, and succeeded in capturing the thief, who thereupon drew a revolver, and placing it against his captor's left breast, just below the heart, pulled the trigger. Samanit was hurried off to the Central Station to prevent lynching.

NEW-YORK AND NEW-ENGLAND RAILROAD. Boston, April 29 .- The Finance Comsittee of the House of Representatives this afternoon abmitted a report on the bill of the Railroad Committee, granting State aid to the amount of \$6,000,000 to the New-York and New-England Railroad. The majority re pert is adverse. Two minerity reports were submitted anount in favor of the bill, the other reducing the amount to \$4,000,000.

TELEGRAPHIC NOTES.

POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y., April 29.—The body of lirch Contant, another victim of the Magenta disaster, was and floating in the river near Sing Sing yesterday. SAN FRANCISCO, April 29,—Mr. Colmesuil, the Samoan Minister, writes to a merchant in this city that begonizations have been opened to have the Australian steamers call regularly at either Pagopogo or Apia.

CHAMBERSBURG, Penn., April 29.—The jury in the case of Kyle Shafer, charged with the murder of his wife, in February last, this afternoon returned a verdict of murder in the first degree. A motion was made for a new trial, GALVESTON, April 29,—A dispatch from Marshall system to Post office at that place was visited by a party of musical robbers last night. The Fostmaster was compelled to open his safe, and \$2,000 in money and stamps was carried off.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 29.—A. G. Lund was arrested here on Saturday for steading \$5,000 from the effice of the White Star Line Steamship Company in Chicago. Charles Peterson, his confederate, has been arrested in Nevada (Const).